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COUNCIL OFFICES,  
ALTON. HANTS:

22nd August, 1951.

To

The Chairman and Members,  
ALTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Public Health Report of the Urban District Council for the year 1950.

The Health Services of the Town, as usual, have been maintained at a very satisfactory and high level. Questions related to Health have received prompt and efficient attention.

The Town remained very healthy throughout the year and there was no occurrence of any untoward outbreak of disease. The statistical figures compare most favourably with those of the Country as a whole. The incidence of infectious diseases has been low.

The appointment of Medical Officer of Health was held by me throughout the year.

My grateful thanks are due to Messrs. G.H. Webb, W.C. Berryman and C.L. Hunt for their most willing and efficient co-operation at all times. I am also indebted to the entire Public Health Staff for the efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties.

Yours faithfully,

T.D. MURISON.

Lt. Col. I.M.S. (Retired).

L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.) L.R.F.P. & S. (Glas.)  
D.P.H. (Edin.)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
ALTON URBAN DISTRICT.



## ALTON URBAN DISTRICT.

## PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1950.

## STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

AREA	4,085 Acres.
RATEABLE VALUE	£62,019.
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	£245.
POPULATION	8,170.
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES	2,500.

## VITAL STATISTICS

## (1) BIRTHS :-

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births	Legitimate	79	58	137
	Illegitimate	5	1	6
		84	59	143
		=====	=====	=====

Rate per 1,000 of estimated population 17.50  
 Rate per 1,000 of estimated population (England & Wales) 15.8

Still Births		Male.	Female.	Total.
	Legitimate	1	1	2
	Illegitimate	1	-	1
		2	1	3
		=====	=====	=====

Rate per 1,000 Total Births (Live & Still) 20.54  
 Rate per 1,000 Total Births (Live & Still) (England & Wales) 16.17

## (2) DEATHS :-

All causes	Male.	Female.	Total.
	66	50	116
	=====	=====	=====
Rate per 1,000 of estimated population 14.19 Rate per 1,000 of estimated population (England & Wales) 11.6			

## Maternal Mortality.

Infant Mortality (Deaths under 1 Year)	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	=====	=====	=====
	2	1	3.



Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age 20.97  
 " " " " 1 " (England & Wales) 29.80

Deaths from :-

Cancer (all ages)	14
Measles	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Diarrhoea (Under 2 years)	Nil

Causes of Death :-

		<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1.	Typhoid & Paratyphoid	-	-	-
2.	Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-
3.	Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4.	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5.	Diphtheria	-	-	-
6.	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	1	2
7.	" (Non-respiratory)	-	-	-
8.	Syphilis	-	1	1
9.	Influenza	1	-	1
10.	Measles	-	-	-
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis & Polio- encephalitis	1	-	1
12.	Acute Infective Encephalitis	-	-	-
13.	Cancer (Buccal Cavity & Oesophagus)-	-	-	-
14.	" (Stomach)	-	1	1
15.	" (Breast)	-	1	1
16.	" (All other sites)	7	4	11
17.	Diabetes	1	-	1
18.	Intra cranial Vascular Lesions	-	-	-
19.	Heart Diseases	23	20	43
20.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	-	-
21.	Bronchitis	1	3	4
22.	Pneumonia	4	1	5
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	-	1	1
24.	Ulcer (Stomach & Duodenum)	2	-	2
25.	Diarrhoea (Under 2 years of age)	-	-	-
26.	Appendicitis	-	-	-
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	-	-	-
28.	Nephritis	1	1	2
29.	Puerperal & Post-abortive Sepsis	-	-	-
30.	Other Maternal causes	-	-	-
31.	Premature Birth	-	-	-
32.	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury & Infantile Diseases	-	-	-
33.	Suicide	2	-	2
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	3	-	3
35.	Other Violent causes	1	1	2
36.	All other causes	7	8	15
		<u>55</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>98</u>

The highest mortality during the year resulted from affections of the Heart and these were exclusively amongst the aged.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES :-

The total number of Notifications for Infectious Diseases during the year, excluding Tuberculosis, was 68. Measles, Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever accounted for 2, 43 and 14 notifications respectively. No case of Diphtheria or Food Poisoning was notified during the year. A total of 14 cases of Tuberculosis, i.e. 8 Pulmonary and 6 Non-Pulmonary were notified during the year. A total of 68 cases of Tuberculosis, both Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary were on the Register during the year.



## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION :-

A total of 378 Immunisations were carried out during the year, i.e. 109 Primary and 269 "Booster" or Re-enforcing Injections.

## WATER SUPPLY :-

The supply of water to the town is satisfactory both in regard to quality and quantity. Bacteriological and Chemical examination of samples taken from the mains have proved satisfactory. The proposed piped supply of water to Beech has been approved by the Ministry of Health. Pipes and fittings are now on order and tenders for the completion of work are to be called for during the coming year. All rivers and streams within the area are under the jurisdiction of The Thames Conservancy Board.

## SEWERAGE :-

The Sewage Works, though heavily overloaded, produces a fair effluent. The alteration of the present sewage disposal works to the alternate "Double Filtration Process" is still with the Ministry of Health for their consideration. No final approval has as yet been received from the Ministry. Samples of effluent from the Works are sent regularly for analysis.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING :-

The collection of house refuse and salvage and the scavenging and cleaning of roads, footpaths and alleyways is being carried out satisfactorily.

## SHOPS & BAKERIES :-

The provisions of the Food & Drugs Act 1938 are being rigidly enforced in the town with satisfactory results.

## CAMPING SITES :-

The Council has approved of 4 sites for individual Caravans making a total now of 7 such sites.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT :-

Action was necessary in one case and the nuisance arising therefrom was speedily abated. The premises are under close observation.

## VERMINOUS PREMISES :-

No such premises were brought to notice during the year.

## FACTORIES :-

All factories are kept under observation. These are proving satisfactory.

## DISINFECTIONS :-

Five disinfections were carried out during the year. Bedding was treated in all cases.

## RESTAURANTS AND CAFES :-

These are under constant and close supervision. In only one case was informal action necessary.



## RODENT CONTROL :-

A total of 540 surveys of properties were carried out during the year and 76 infestations dealt with satisfactorily. The Sewage Disposal Works and Pumping Station were regularly treated and the poison baiting of sewers also received attention.

## SCHOOLS :-

Sanitary accommodation and water supplies of schools have been regularly inspected.

## HOUSING :-

(1) Inspection of Dwelling Houses		
(i) (a) Number of houses inspected for defects	34	
(b) Houses inspected for purpose	136	
(c) Council house inspections	893	
(ii) (a) Number of dwelling houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	Nil	
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	Nil	
(iii) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil	
(iv) Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	34	
(2) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	27	
(3) Proceedings under Sections 9. 10 & 16 of the Housing Act 1936 :-		
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notice		
(a) by owners	Nil	
(b) by Council in default by owners	2.	
Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-		
Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act 1936	Nil	
Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.	Nil	
Proceedings under Part IV of the Housing Act 1936.	Nil	

During the year 434 re-inspections of works and repairs to houses, including Council property have been made.

## Visits and Inspections :-

Drainage	77
Piggeries	2
Tents, vans etc.	2
Factories	25
Meat shops	30
Other Food Shops	47
Restaurants and Cafes	38
Fried Fish Shops	16
Disinfections (Cockroaches)	11
Bake houses	16
Miscellaneous	64
	<u>328</u>



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INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD :-

(i) Milk and Dairies.

During the year, the Council took over the supervision of two new pasteurising plants on behalf of the County Council. Both plants employ the "Holder" method of pasteurisation. During the year 12 samples of Pasteurised and 12 samples of T.T. Pasteurised Milk were sent for analysis with satisfactory results.

(ii) Ice Cream.

These premises are kept under close supervision. Only one retailer manufactures ice cream in the town, whereas the remainder sell pre-packed or loose ice cream, bought in bulk and stored in suitable refrigerators. During the year three premises were registered for the sale of ice cream.

(iii) Meat and Other Foods.

Every animal slaughtered at the Ministry slaughterhouse has been inspected. The Manager and Slaughtermen have again been very co-operative.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1024	446	688	2306	174
Number inspected	1024	446	688	2306	174
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	5	10	4	6	15
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	157	82	4	107	33
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	16.99	20.62	1.16	4.90	27.58
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	5	15	2	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	99	44	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10.15	13.22	0.30	-	0.57

Apart from meat condemned at the slaughterhouse the following tinned food has been condemned :-

21 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. Corned Beef  
 422 tins Milk  
 4 " Soup  
 13 " Fruit  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  " Tea  
 3 lbs. Flour  
 103 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Sausages  
 9 tins and 17 stone 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. Fish  
 21 " Meat  
 44 " Vegetables  
 4 " Jam  
 504 Eggs  
 36 Christmas Puddings  
 1 Packet Biscuits



FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes as to health.

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices
i. Factories in which Section 1.2.3.4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	4	-
ii. Factories not included in i in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	47	21	-
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	1	-	-
	60	25	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES :-

The provision of Health Services in the area remain the same as in the past. Their existence is of incalculable value to the General Public. These include the services of Local Authority Officers, i.e. Assistant County Medical Officers, Dental Surgeons, Inspectors of Foods & Drugs, Health Visitors and District Nurses and Midwives.

The Local Authority has provided facilities for the chemical and bacteriological examination of all food stuffs, milk, water and also for the examination of clinical material. Provision has been made for Child Welfare Centre, Anti-natal and Orthopaedic Clinics. Facilities exist for nursing in the home by District Nurse and Midwife.

The Inwood Cottage Hospital, Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital and the Infectious Diseases Hospital meet all the requirements of the town in the matter of treatment and care of Medical, Surgical and Infectious cases. Provision has also been made outside the area by the Local Authority for the care and treatment of small pox, orthopaedic puerperal sepsis and ophthalmia neonatorum and maternity cases. Sanatoria for the reception and care of tuberculosis also exist outside the area.



Two Maternity and Nursing Homes maintained by private enterprise are situated in the area. These premises are registered and regularly visited by Officers of the Local Authority. The regular inspection of "Boarded out" children is carried out by Officers of the Local Authority and the submission of necessary returns in regard to new admissions is made to the Local Authority.

An Ambulance Service is maintained in the area for the transportation of medical, surgical and infectious cases.

